

What is claimed is:

1. A degradation diagnostic method, comprising:

inputting an equipment degradation diagnostic request
5 from a diagnosis requester through a network;
selecting a degradation diagnosis request handler in
accordance with degradation diagnosis execution condition
information specified in respect of at least one degradation
diagnosis request handler and condition information
10 according to which said diagnosis requester requests
degradation diagnosis;

requesting said selected degradation diagnosis request
handler to execute degradation diagnosis;

acquiring execution results of degradation diagnosis by
15 said selected degradation diagnostic request handler; and
outputting execution results through said network to
said diagnosis requester.

2. A degradation diagnostic method, comprising:

20 registering in a diagnostic results database contents
of an equipment degradation diagnostic request and execution
results of degradation diagnosis in accordance with said
equipment degradation diagnostic request;

first inputting a degradation diagnostic request from a
25 diagnosis requester through a network; and

reading execution results of a degradation diagnosis in
accordance with a degradation diagnostic request having a
prescribed relationship from said diagnostic results
database if said degradation diagnostic request having a
5 prescribed relationship with said degradation diagnostic
request input from a diagnosis requester is registered in
said diagnostic results database; and

outputting execution results of a degradation diagnosis
to said diagnosis requester through said network.

10

3. The degradation diagnostic method according to claim
1, further comprising:

acquiring execution results of degradation diagnosis
obtained by said selected degradation diagnostic request
15 handler and outputting said execution results to said
diagnosis requester through said network;

registering said execution results and contents of said
degradation diagnostic request that was a cause of said
execution results in a diagnostic results database;

20 newly second inputting a degradation diagnostic request
from a diagnosis requester through said network; and

reading said execution results of a degradation
diagnosis in accordance with a degradation diagnostic
request having a prescribed relationship from said
25 diagnostic results database if a degradation diagnostic
request having a prescribed relationship with said

degradation diagnostic request input from a new second
diagnosis requester is registered in said diagnostic results
database; and

outputting said execution results to said new diagnosis
5 requester through said network.

4. The degradation diagnosis method according to claim
1 or claim 3,

wherein, if environmental information utilized in
10 degradation diagnosis by said selected degradation diagnosis
request handler is deficient, a measurement request handler
of said deficient environmental information is selected and
is requested to measure said deficient environmental
information, and said results of measurement of said
15 deficient environmental information are provided to said
selected degradation diagnosis request handler.

5. The degradation diagnosis method according to any
one of claims 1 to 4, further comprising:

20 inputting an equipment maintenance request from a
diagnosis requester that obtained said execution results
through said network; and

requesting a maintenance by selecting a maintenance
request handler.

25

6. A degradation diagnosis method comprising:

storing information for diagnostic purposes specifying degradation diagnostic processing whereby a state of degradation of equipment is diagnosed in a diagnostic database;

5 inputting said information utilized in said degradation diagnostic processing from a diagnosis requester through a network;

10 executing said degradation diagnostic processing in accordance with said information for diagnostic purposes stored in said diagnostic database and information input from said diagnosis requester; and

outputting said execution results to said diagnosis requester through said network.

15 7. A degradation diagnosis method, comprising:

20 storing information for diagnostic purposes that specifies degradation diagnostic processing whereby a state of degradation of equipment is diagnosed and manual information relating to said degradation diagnostic processing in a diagnostic database;

25 designating sending out of an environmental evaluation unit if a request for sending out of said environmental evaluation unit to be utilized in measurement for evaluation of environment is input from a diagnosis requester through a network;

outputting said manual information stored in said diagnostic database to said diagnosis requester through the network if a request for output of said manual information is input through said network from said diagnosis requester;

5 inputting information utilized in said execution diagnostic processing from said diagnosis requester through said network;

10 executing said degradation diagnostic processing in accordance with information for diagnostic purposes stored in said diagnostic database and said information input from said diagnosis requester and obtaining execution results; and

outputting said execution results to said diagnosis requester through said network.

15

8. A method of degradation diagnosis according to claim 7, further comprising:

20 when said environmental evaluation unit is updated, inputting new manual information involved in said updating; and

storing said information in said diagnostic database.

9. A method of degradation diagnosis according to claim 7 or 8, further comprising:

25 storing new information for diagnostic purposes that specifies said updated degradation diagnostic processing in

said diagnostic database when said degradation diagnostic processing is updated.

10. A method of degradation diagnosis according to any
5 one of claim 6 to 9, further comprising:

executing said degradation diagnostic processing in
accordance with information for diagnostic purposes stored
in said diagnostic database and information input from said
diagnosis requester and obtaining execution results;

10 outputting said execution results to said diagnosis
requester through said network;

storing said execution results and said information
input from said diagnosis requester in a diagnostic results
database;

15 inputting information utilized in said degradation
diagnostic processing from a new requester through said
network; and

reading said execution results of degradation
diagnostic processing in accordance with information having
20 said prescribed relationship from said diagnostic results
database if information having a prescribed relationship
with information input from said new diagnosis requester is
registered in said diagnostic database; and

outputting execution results to said new diagnosis
25 requester through said network.

11. A method of degradation diagnosis according to any one of claims 6 to 10, further comprising:

managing service charges relating to degradation diagnosis requested by said diagnosis requester.

5

12. A degradation diagnosis mediation device, comprising:

selection section that inputs an equipment degradation diagnostic request from a diagnosis requester through a network and selects a degradation diagnosis request handler in accordance with degradation diagnosis execution condition information specified in respect of at least one degradation diagnosis request handler and condition information according to which said diagnosis requester requests degradation diagnosis, and requests said selected degradation diagnosis request handler to execute degradation diagnosis; and

result output section that acquires execution results of degradation diagnosis by said selected degradation diagnostic request handler and outputs said execution results through said network to said diagnosis requester.

13. A degradation diagnosis mediation device, comprising:

a diagnostic results database in which is registered a content of an equipment degradation diagnostic request and

execution results of degradation diagnosis in accordance with a degradation diagnostic request;

reusable results output section that inputs a degradation diagnostic request from a diagnostic requester through a network and, if a degradation diagnostic request having a prescribed relationship with said degradation diagnostic request input from said diagnosis requester is registered in said diagnostic results database, reads said execution results of a degradation diagnosis in accordance with said degradation diagnostic request having a prescribed relationship from said diagnostic results database and outputs said execution results to said diagnosis requester through said network.

14. The degradation mediation device according to claim 12, further comprising:

results registration section that acquires execution results of degradation diagnosis obtained by said selected degradation diagnostic request handler and registers said execution results and a content of said degradation diagnostic request that was an execution cause in a diagnostic results database; and

reusable results output section that newly inputs a degradation diagnostic request from a diagnosis requester through said network; and, if a degradation diagnostic request having a prescribed relationship with said

degradation diagnostic request input from a new diagnosis requester is registered in said diagnostic results database, reads said execution results of a degradation diagnosis in accordance with said degradation diagnostic request having
5 said prescribed relationship from said diagnostic results database and outputs said execution results to said new diagnosis requester through said network.

15. The degradation mediation device according to claim
10 12 or 14, further comprising:

an environmental information provision section whereby, if environmental information utilized in degradation diagnosis by said selected degradation diagnosis request handler is deficient, said selection section requests
15 measurement of said deficient environmental information by selecting a measurement request handler of deficient environmental information, and measurement results of said deficient environmental information are provided to said selected degradation diagnosis request handler.

20

16. The degradation mediation device according to any one of claim 12 to 15, further comprising:

a maintenance request selection section whereby an equipment maintenance request is input from a diagnosis
25 requester that obtained said execution results through said

network and maintenance is requested by selecting a maintenance request handler.

17. A degradation diagnostic device, comprising:

5 diagnostic section that inputs information utilized in degradation diagnostic processing whereby a state of degradation of equipment is diagnosed from a diagnosis requester through a network, accesses a diagnostic database that stores information for diagnostic purposes that
10 specifies said degradation diagnostic processing, executes said degradation diagnostic processing in accordance with said information for diagnostic purposes stored in said diagnostic database and information input from said diagnosis requester and obtains execution results, outputs
15 said execution results to said diagnosis requester through said network.

18. The degradation diagnostic device according to claim 17, further comprising:

20 an output section whereby a request for reading manual information relating to degradation diagnostic processing is input from a diagnosis requester through said network and said manual information is output through said network to said diagnosis requester that requested a reading.

25

19. The degradation diagnostic device according to claim 17 or 18, further comprising:

a sending section whereby a request for sending out an environmental evaluation unit utilized for measurement for evaluation of an environment state in which an equipment is arranged is input from a diagnosis requester through said network and instructions are given for sending out of said environmental evaluation unit.

20. The degradation diagnostic device according to any one of claims 17 to 19, further comprising:

a storage section that stores in said diagnostic database execution results obtained by said diagnostic section and information from said diagnosis requester; and

a storage management section that inputs information utilized for said degradation diagnostic processing from a new diagnosis requester through said network and, if information having a prescribed relationship with said information input from said new diagnosis requester is registered in said diagnostic database, reads from said diagnostic database execution results of said degradation diagnostic processing based on information having a prescribed relationship and output said execution results to said new diagnosis requester through said network.

25

21. The degradation diagnostic device according to any one of claims 17 to 20, further comprising:

a requester information management section that manages information of diagnosis requesters; and

5 a fee management section that manages service fees resulting from requests relating to degradation diagnosis input through said network from said diagnosis requester utilizing the information of said requester information management section.

10

22. A computer-readable recording medium on which is recorded a program for implementing on a computer, said program comprising:

a selection function whereby an equipment degradation
15 diagnosis request is input from a diagnosis requester through a network, a degradation diagnosis request handler is selected based on execution condition information of prescribed degradation diagnosis concerning at least one degradation diagnosis request handler and condition
20 information according to which said diagnosis requester requests degradation diagnosis, and execution of degradation diagnosis by said selected degradation diagnosis requests handler is requested; and

a results output function that acquires execution
25 results of degradation diagnosis obtained by said selected degradation diagnosis requests handler and outputs said

execution results to said diagnosis requester through the network.

23. A computer-readable recording medium on which is
5 recorded a program for implementing on a computer, said
program comprising:

a results registration function whereby a content of an
equipment degradation diagnosis request and execution
results of degradation diagnosis in accordance with said
10 equipment degradation diagnosis request are registered in a
diagnostic results database; and

a reusable results output function that inputs a
degradation diagnostic request from a diagnostic requester
through a network and, if a degradation diagnostic request
15 having a prescribed relationship with a degradation
diagnostic request input from said diagnosis requester is
registered in said diagnostic results database, reads said
execution results of a degradation diagnosis in accordance
with said degradation diagnostic request having a prescribed
20 relationship from said diagnostic results database and
outputs said execution results to said diagnosis requester
through said network.

24. The computer-readable recording medium according to
25 claim 22 on which is recorded a program for implementing on
a computer, said program comprising:

a results registration function whereby the execution results of degradation diagnosis executed by said selected degradation diagnosis request handler are acquired and execution results and a content of said degradation
5 diagnostic request that was an execution cause are registered in a diagnostic results database; and

a reusable results output function that inputs a degradation diagnostic request from a new diagnostic requester through a network and, if a degradation diagnostic
10 request having a prescribed relationship with said degradation diagnostic request input from a new diagnosis requester is registered in said diagnostic results database, reads execution results of a degradation diagnosis in accordance with a degradation diagnostic request having a
15 prescribed relationship from said diagnostic results database and outputs said execution results to said new diagnosis requester through said network.

25. A computer-readable recording medium on which is
20 recorded a program for implementing on a computer, said program comprising:

a diagnostic function whereby information utilized for degradation diagnostic processing whereby a state of degradation of equipment is diagnosed is input from a
25 diagnosis requester through a network, a diagnostic database in which is stored information for diagnostic purposes that

specifies said degradation diagnostic processing is accessed,
said degradation diagnostic processing is formed in
accordance with information for diagnostic purposes stored
in said diagnostic database and information input from said
5 diagnosis requester, and said execution results are output
to said diagnosis requester through said network.

26. The computer-readable recording medium according to
claim 25 on which is recorded a program for implementing on
10 a computer, said program comprising:

a storage function of storing in said diagnostic
database execution results obtained by said diagnostic
function and information input from said diagnosis
requester; and

15 a storage management function whereby information
utilized for said degradation diagnostic processing is input
from a new diagnosis requester through said network and, if
information having a prescribed relationship with
information input from a new diagnosis requester is
20 registered in said diagnostic database, results of said
degradation diagnostic processing in accordance with
information having said prescribed relationship are read
from said diagnostic database and output to said new
diagnosis requester through said network.

25